



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION OF

MURAKAMI et al.

Group Art Unit: 1771

Appln. No.: 09/482,731

Examiner: Vo, H

Filed: January, 14, 2000

Title: SOUND ABSORBING STRUCTURE

September 27, 2001

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AMENDMENT

RECEIVED

OCT 1 2001

TC 1700

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated June 27, 2001, please amend the above identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please enter the following amended claims:

1. (Amended) A sound absorbing structure comprising at least one porous member including a plurality of holes, wherein said holes are at least one kind of through holes, that penetrate through the porous member, and/or non-through holes, that extend into but do not penetrate through the porous member.

See the attached Appendix for the changes made to effect the above claim.

Please add the following new claims:

44. (New) The sound absorbing structure according to claim 1, wherein a main component of the porous member is made of rubber or elastomer.